

Caltrans NEPA Assignment Fact Sheet

Time Savings and Approvals

Number of Environmental Approvals under NEPA Assignment¹

23 USC 326 CEs	23 USC 327 CEs	Draft EAs	FONSIs	Draft EISs	Final EISs	RODs	Total
12,119	206	235	204	22	18	15	12,819

Data: July 1, 2007 through September 30, 2018 for Capital and Local Assistance programs.

Median Times Savings for Caltrans Environmental Approvals and Section 7 Formal Consultation Processes Completed under NEPA Assignment Program

NEPA Environmental Approval Processing Milestones	Pre-NEPA Assignment Program Median Duration ² in Months (# of approvals)	NEPA Assignment Program Median Duration in Months (# of approvals)	Median Time Savings Realized in Months
Begin Environmental Studies to Draft Environmental Assessment	42.3 (31)	31.4 (235)	10.9
Begin Environmental Studies to Finding of No Significant Impact Approval	54.1 (31)	40.7 (204)	13.4
Notice of Intent to Draft Environmental Impact Statement	69.9 (8)	44.4 (22)	25.4
Notice of Intent to Final Environmental Impact Statement	193.9 (5)	68.9 (18)	125.0
Submittal of FESA Section 7 documentation to USFWS/NMFS to the Biological Opinion	11.0 (25)	5.9 (149)	5.1

Data: July 1, 2007 through September 30, 2018 for Capital and Local Assistance programs.

Program Highlights

- California, Texas, Florida, Ohio, Utah, Alaska, Arizona and Nebraska have been assigned NEPA responsibilities under MOUs with FHWA.
- Several other states are now developing applications or in the MOU approval process.
- California is the only state to participate in the Project Delivery Pilot Program (July 2007 – September 2012).
- Under the Pilot Program, Caltrans successfully completed five years of FHWA audits and reporting, and is now the only state in the monitoring phase of NEPA Assignment (other “NEPA states” are audited regularly by FHWA during the first four years of their programs.)
- Caltrans has saved significant time in reviewing and approving its NEPA documents since undertaking NEPA Assignment. A median time savings of 10.9 months has been achieved in approving draft EAs; 13.4 months for final EAs (FONSIs); 25.4 months for DEISs; and 125 months for FEISs.
- Caltrans works closely with its partners – local agencies, consultants, and FHWA – in delivering on the Congressional mandate to accelerate project delivery of its projects.

¹ The number of Draft EA, Draft EIS, FONSI, Final EIS documents and RODs includes only projects under which the environmental studies phase was initiated after NEPA Assignment began.

² Median duration was calculated using a sample “baseline” set of projects reviewed and approved prior to initiation of NEPA Assignment.